

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 4, 6 through 49 and 42 through 94 are pending in the present application. In the pending Office Action, the Examiner has taken the position that the claims are drawn to three distinct inventions. Specifically, the Examiner has grouped the claims as follows:

Group I: Claims 1 - 4, 6 - 30, 37 - 40, 42 - 63 and 69 - 81.

Group II: Claims 31 - 36 and 64 - 67.

Group III: Claims 82 - 94.

Applicants elect without traverse the claims of group I (claims 1 - 4, 6 - 30, 37 - 40, 42 - 63 and 69 - 81). Claims 31 - 36, 64 - 67 and 82 - 94 are hereby withdrawn and Applicants reserve the right to pursue these claims and others in one or more continuation/divisional applications.

CONCLUSION

The Applicants respectfully submit that this application is not only in condition for examination on the merits, which is respectfully requested, but also in condition for allowance. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Although none are believed to be due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 or 1.17 or credit any overpayment to Kenyon & Kneyon Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

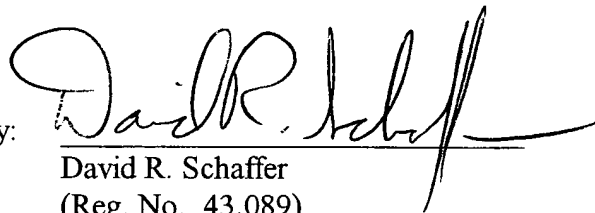
The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (202) 220-4263 to discuss any matter concerning this application.

Respectfully submitted,

KENYON & KENYON

Dated: April 14, 2004

By:



David R. Schaffer
(Reg. No. 43,089)

1500 K Street, N.W.
Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20005
Tel: (202) 220-4200
Fax: (202) 220-4201